

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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NEA/IRN - MR. NAAS

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R 222108Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT FARES

REF: STATE 112135 AND PREVIOUS

1. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE IRAN AIR ON APRIL 15, 1975 FILED A GOVERNMENT-ORDERED 40 PERCENT DISCOUNT FARE APPLICABLE FIRST CLASS AND NORMAL ECONOMY FARES FOR STUDENTS, AGED 12 TO 30, STUDYING IN THE UNITED STATES AND FOR THEIR FAMILIES. ACTIVE AND RETIRED PERSONNEL OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING THEIR FAMILIES, ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH THE FARES IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (D) OF ARTICLE 10 OF THE U.S.-IRAN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT. FARES AVAILABLE ONLY TO SELECTED SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION BASED ON THE OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF THE INDIVIDUAL HAVE BEEN FOUND TO BE UNJUSTLY DISCRIMINATORY BY THE U.S. AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITIES AND THEIR USE DENIED IN TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE UNITED STATES. THE CAB HAS AGREED NOT TO OBJECT TO THE USE OF THE PROPOSED AIR FARE FOR THE TIME BEING. THE U.S.

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HAS RESERVED ITS RIGHTS UNDER ARTICLE 10(G) SHOULD THE

U.S. AND IRAN NOT REACH AGREEMENT ON THE APPROPRIATE RATE

FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS. CONSULTATIONS WILL PROBABLY BE HELD IN JUNE.

2. TO AID IN PREPARATION FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE EMBASSY OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SOONEST: (1) AN ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF IRANIANS EMPLOYED BY GOI, INCLUDING OFFICIALS ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC AND SOCIAL SERVICES SPONSORED BY THE GOI; (2) ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF IRANIANS STUDYING IN THE U.S. (IRAN AIR U.S. ATTORNEY THIS WINTER GAVE CAB FIGURE OF 13,000); (3) ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF IRANIAN STUDENTS IN U.S. WHOSE EDUCATION IS SUBSIDIZED BY GOI; (4) INFORMATION CONCERNING STUDENT TRAVEL ON SUMMER VACATIONS PAID FOR BY GOI.

3. THE OFFICIAL AIRLINE GUIDE LISTS FOR IRAN A DEPARTURE TAX OF RLS 250 AND AN EXIT VISA TAX OF RLS 10 FOR NATIONALS OF IRAN. IT IS CAB UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE IS ANOTHER RATHER HEAVY TAX ON IRANIANS DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF IRAN. DOES SUCH A TAX EXIST? IF IT DOES, TO WHAT CATEGORIES OF TRAVELERS DOES IT APPLY? ARE IRANIANS TRAVELING TO THE UNITED STATES TO STUDY LIABLE TO SUCH TAX? INGERSOLL

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